

Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), my distinguished colleague, who was born in what used to be the sovereign State of Alabama, and certainly the gentleman from New York (Mr. HOUGHTON). The gentleman from New York (Mr. HOUGHTON) did not have to be there because of his situation, but he was.

I want to give praise and compliments to all of the Members who took time away from their districts to go to revisiting that situation. I remembered it very well. Even though I was not personally present, I was prayerfully present and watched in horror how the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) was attacked by dogs while he sought justice and equality for the people and their particular movement.

Those before me have given the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. HOUGHTON) much praise, for which it was deserved.

Let me use another example I often tell students when I talk to them. Just last week I had the privilege of speaking to 11,000 black engineering students who had convened in Indianapolis for their national conference. They could have easily been on a beach or having a party, but they were there trying to further their knowledge in the field of the math and engineering, and I loved them very much for devoting that time to their upward mobility.

There is a situation that I often described to children and young people, because I do not want them to not know about it, and that was during the early years of the movement, they were what they call chain gangs. They would assemble men, strong men, in chains and make them work on public projects.

There was a chain gang that busted out the mountains in Chattanooga, Tennessee, in the Lookout Mountains in Chattanooga, Tennessee, to enable the engineers of that time to build a highway through the Lookout Mountains in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

They had to bust out the mountains. They used chisels. They sang songs. They were on a chain gang. They were enslaved, but they did their jobs so that a highway could be planned and laid by engineers.

As we travel through this life, whether we are in Congress or whether we are in various professions, we can never forget those who paved the way for us, who shared the sweat and the tears and had the commitment for the future generations to have an opportunity to move on.

Mr. Speaker, I want to praise again the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), my colleague. And as my colleagues know, I was the one that bought the idea of a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States House of Representatives on behalf of the mothers of civil rights movement for Ms. Rosa Parks, and I did that as an inspiration to those who would not forget the people that paved the way for us.

While she sat there, the whole world stood up and brought people together,

brought the name of Dr. Martin Luther King to the ears and eyes of America. While Rosa Parks just sat there, the whole world stood up.

Let me end, Mr. Speaker, by reminding us that, in order to have harmony in this world, there has to be harmony between the black and the white. That is why the creators of the piano made both black and white keys, one tune cannot be harmonious without the other.

As we move forward and we have resistance in this country and in this world now toward equal opportunity, toward affirmative action, toward Americans with disabilities, toward women who seek medical assistance despite their economic circumstances, lest we forget that this is supposed to be one Nation under God, with liberty and justice for all people, not just in the preamble, not just in some written script, but in the spirit of liberty for everybody.

I want to close, Mr. Speaker, by again giving my heart-felt gratitude to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), who is from what used to be the sovereign State of Alabama, I am from what used to be the sovereign State of Indiana, for all of the sacrifices that he made and those who were with him and those who followed after him that paved the way for many of us.

#### THIRTY-SIX YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF MARCH ACROSS EDMUND PETTUS BRIDGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. PELOSI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon an unusual quality is the order of the day, an unusual quality for this House, and that is of humility.

It is with great humility that any of us talk about this trip to Selma, Alabama, to Montgomery and to Birmingham in the presence of the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), our colleague. With humility and gratitude to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) and to the gentleman from New York (Mr. HOUGHTON) and to the Faith and Politics Institute, I am grateful to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) for the opportunity to bring my daughter Christine, for the two of us to be able to go with you to walk through history.

□ 1530

It is a tradition in our country that families take their children to visit Boston and Philadelphia, to see places of significance, Washington DC., in our country's history. We must add to that list of must visits Alabama, Birmingham, to see what happened and how it is memorialized at the museum and in the monuments there, with the dogs and the hoses and the rest, to see we are capable of man's inhumanity to man, to Montgomery to see the sites of

the march, and to Selma to see where the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) crossed over the bridge and where he was physically beaten for his courage.

What stands out to me and what I want to use my brief time, Mr. Speaker, on this Special Order that the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) is participating in, and I thank him for allowing us to have this time to express our appreciation for that very, very special visit, which, as the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JEFFERSON) said, has made a difference in all of our lives, is I want to talk for a moment about the Reverend Martin Luther King.

Reverend King is revered in our country as a great leader. Indeed, he has joined the ranks of American Presidents in having a day named for him where people honor his contribution to our country. But I wish that more people would honor him more fully and have a greater appreciation for his contribution. Certainly he was a great civil rights leader; but he was also a disciple, an apostle of nonviolence, faith-based nonviolence that was central to his success, to his strength, and to the contribution that he made to our country.

So, in closing my remarks, I want to say that I hope that one of the resolves that comes out of our visit and out of this Special Order and out of our work in Congress is a fuller appreciation throughout our country in our schools for the work of Reverend Martin Luther King. I hope on another occasion to say more on that subject.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased with great humility and gratitude to yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS).

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), my friend and my colleague, for yielding and for going on this trip. I want to also take the time to thank all of the staff of Faith and Politics, staff from the Capitol, the Capitol Police, and others that assisted us in making this trip a very successful trip.

We have come a distance in the past 36 years toward laying down the word on race, toward creating a truly interracial democracy. We are on our way toward the building of the beloved community. We are not there yet; but during the past 36 years, we traveled such a distance.

Those signs that I saw in Selma that said "white men," "colored men," "white women," "colored women," they are gone. They will not return.

Today, in Selma, Alabama, in Montgomery, in Birmingham, you have biracial government, black people, white people working together to create a sense of community, to create a sense of family.

If there is anything we learned from this trip, even here in the House, the people's House, the House of Representatives, we can create a sense of family, one family, one House, the American House, the American family.